



This newsletter is a publication of Sister Cities of Arlington, Texas

www.arlingtontx.gov/sistercity/index.html

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NEWSLETTER

NO. 27

GREETINGS

Sister Cities of Arlington Members and Friends,

And the wheels keep on moving!!! We have enjoyed several outings this year including more than a couple of trips to Rahr Brewery...for research of course. We are close to celebrating our annual picnic in partnership with Food Truck Fridays Oktoberfest season at S. J. Stovall Park. We have some exciting things this year with the return of The German Band of North Texas performing. All hands on deck are needed to make this not only an exciting event, but a great fundraiser to bring awareness to our organization. We have purchased little duckies dressed in lederhosen and dirndl costumes to sell for donations. For the grownups we have adult sized cutouts to take your selfies for a price of course. We are also looking for donated items to use for prize drawings. Food Truck Fridays has a large following of people and we need to take advantage of the opportunity to introduce more people to Sister Cities!!! Please invite your friends to join us for this fun evening. We hope to have a good youth turnout from students who have visited Bad Königshofen or have interest in German, so please find a student to converse with so they can practice what they have learned. Students from Northstar School, Martin HS World Affairs Council, Lamar High School and others will join us. Lamar students will demonstrate a few German dances and hope to sell apple strudel as a fundraiser for their German club. Food Truck Fridays continue through the month of September and

part of Oktober so please come back out to revisit. If we still have rubber duckies we may be out there to promote sister cities!!! We are fortunate to have a fantastic door prize drawing of a night at The Ballpark. You have a chance for a group of 10 guests to spend an evening at the ballpark in a luxury suite including complimentary hot dogs and all the fixings, beer & wine to enjoy!!! What a deal!!! We will have other great items as well including gift baskets and gift certificates to some exciting venues.

There is no rest for the cheery; this year's Texas Christkindl Market will be bigger and better which is under new management with the Convention & Visitors Bureau. Please mark your calendars for Friday, November 27th thru Wednesday December 23rd. This year, so as not to wear out our volunteer workers, we will hire a staff person to work some of the hours of the market. Please prepare your schedule to sign up for the market. We have placed our lace order with a shop in Rothenburg, and students at Northstar School are planning on getting their bakers hats and aprons on to make lebkuchen hearts which was a big success last year. There are more exciting vendors and venues for this year's market to attract young and old and more marketing tools to attract all of the professional and high school football crowds that pass close to the market, but are unaware of our existence on the north side of the ballpark. The entrance will be moved to the northwest side of the ballpark on

the home plate entrance area. That will assure traffic from the south on Randol Mill and traffic from the west on Nolan Ryan Expressway will see us!!!! Gear up and let's finish out this season strong!!!!

Thank you,

Bruce E. Maxwell
President, Sister Cities of Arlington, Inc.

DAS SCHLUNDHAUS

By Martha Liehsel

On Bad Königshofen's town square, one of the wonderful historic buildings that right away attracts the attention of a visitor is the hotel/restaurant Schlundhaus. Part of the building's cellar dates back 1,000 years, but the above-ground floors we see today date back "only" to 1662.

What does the word "Schlundhaus" mean? "Schlund" is from an old German word meaning a sip or a gulp. Places where one could get good food and drink became known as "Schlundhäuser" (= plural of "Schlundhaus"). That designation was used for inns as far back as the early Middle Ages, but only in the region where Bad Königshofen is located and only for an official inn in a public city-owned building.

In historian Reinhold Albert's writings about the Bad Königshofen Schlundhaus, he mentions that Schlundhäuser, since they were owned by towns, had special privileges, one being that a Schlundhaus might have its own official (smaller) measure for the amount of beer in one serving.

Bad Königshofen's Schlundhaus was re-constructed from 1660 to 1662, after lying in ruins after a fire destroyed it in 1632. It is not known what year the earlier structure was built, but it rested on an even earlier foundation. The well in the cellar of the building was dug in 1488 and can still be seen today. Historians believe that the Königshofen town council at one time met in the Schlundhaus, and it is

known that the regional court held its proceedings there until 1720.



Photo by Hanns Friedrich

Over the years innkeepers leased the Schlundhaus from the city. One lease agreement (from 1722) states that the innkeeper was to always have a room available for traveling nobility. Also, the innkeeper was obligated to stop any cursing as well as any bickering or fighting. Around the year 1800 Königshofen sold the Schlundhaus and from then on it has passed through many private owners. Today it is owned and operated by Christian Fischer and his daughter Beate.

On the front of the Schlundhaus is a painting depicting a historic event in the history of Bad Königshofen. During the Thirty Years' War the town was occupied by Swedish troops from 1631 till 1635, and the painting shows the entry into town of the Swedish King Gustav Adolf. On the King's second visit, he is thought to have spent a night in the Schlundhaus, just before it burned a couple months later.

MEMBER FOCUS

By Ellen Brooke

Sister Cities member Juliann Warner retired this spring after 41 years of teaching at AISD. Juli began her career with the Arlington Independent School District in 1974, and has spent the last 20 years at Martin High School. Juli and fellow teacher Rhonda Pugh began the Jr. World Affairs Council at Martin in 2004

and were recognized this year as 2015 International Educators of the Year by the World Affairs Council of Dallas/Fort Worth.

Congratulations to our 2015 International Educators of the Year:
Juliann Warner, Arlington ISD Educator
and Rhonda Pugh, Arlington ISD Educator



Juli's last teacher "duty" was chaperoning ten Martin High School students to Germany. They were featured in the City of Arlington's

Support Quality Education newsletter.
(<http://www.arlington-tx.gov/budget/wp-content/uploads/sites/19/2015/08/Newsletter-Support-Quality-Education-Vol.-3-3.pdf>)).

Juli promises a full report of that trip in the next Sister Cities of Arlington newsletter!

Sister Cities of Arlington is proud of Juliann Warner's many accomplishments and appreciates her commitment and dedication to her students, as well as her passion for history and the special relationship shared by Arlington and Bad Königshofen. Congratulations Juli!

A RAVENSBURGER FROM TEXAS

By Werner Grotz

(Editor's note: The newspaper "Schwäbische Zeitung" of Ravensburg, Germany, published an article in July about our member Werner Grotz. Werner was born in that town and has shared with us in English some passages of interest from the article.)

Werner Grotz has lived in Canada and the U.S. since 1968, but returns to his hometown Ravensburg every year to attend the hometown festival the "Rutenfest," which dates back to the 16th century.

After leaving Ravensburg, he emigrated to Toronto/Canada, with subsequent stops in Portland, Oregon, and Salt Lake City, Utah, before settling down in Arlington, Texas. Werner's reason to travel across the Big Pond is not that clear anymore. During the sixties it was quite fashionable for young people to emigrate to the U.S., Canada or Australia. Werner and the friends he knew since kindergarten talked about emigrating, but only Werner took the "big step."

As a trained and certified dental technician, Werner had no problem finding a job in his field. Originally he wanted to stay in Toronto for a year to work as a dental technician and learn English, but his plan changed after meeting Christel, a good-looking lady from Munich, Germany. They got married and have two beautiful daughters and a grandson.

Werner still loves his hometown food and beer. His great-grandfather worked for the Leibinger Brewery, and Werner still drinks that beer today. It is available in Arlington, Texas.

Werner also continues to be an active model railroad fan and maintains a permanent set-up in his house. To always be informed about his



hometown in Germany, he reads the local newspaper online every morning.

VISITORS TO CITY HALL

By Ellen Brooke

On Friday, August 21st, I had the pleasant surprise of visitors at City Hall. Karl Josef Mock and his wife Ann were visiting from New Jersey. Mr. Mock was born in Bad Königshofen and moved to the U.S. when he was 18 ½ years old. He recalled receiving a water pistol in the care package from Arlington! I took them across the street to the International Peace & Friendship Monument and gave directions to the Bad Königshofen Pool at S.J. Stovall Park.

I also gave them an Arlington pin with the new logo. They will be visiting Bad Königshofen next month and will let our friends know they finally made it to Arlington!

INDIANOLA

By Eric English

Indianola is rich in history but a forgotten town to most. It was officially rendered “dead” by the postal officials and relocated in 1887. Once a vibrant seaport, its streets and the foundation to its former courthouse are now covered by three feet of water and a little mud of the Matagorda Bay. The only reminders of the seaport’s rich memoirs and contributions are a statue of the explorer LaSalle, a fishing camp, and Texas Historical Marker, #2642.



Indianola by Helmuth Holtz, Sept. 1860

This area of the coast was home to very tall Karankawa Indians. Reports reflect that these tribes were cannibalistic and lived from present day Galveston to just south of Corpus Christi. The Spanish explorers De Vaca and Pineda (1517 and 1697 respectively) were the first to trade with these Indians. Later, French explorer LaSalle came to the site by accident in 1685. He had been trying to locate the mouth of the Mississippi River. He overshot his target, but upon landing at Indianola he established a small colony. The Karankawa massacred these colonists two years later.

It was the port of entry for many German immigrants. In 1844, Prince Carl (Karl) of Solms- Braunfels chose this site for his colony. Indianola was second only to Galveston, about 100 miles north, as the state’s top seaport. He called the site Karlshaven. Prince Carl wanted a landing that would provide direct access to New Braunfels with as little interaction with Native Americans as possible. However as soon as 1848, Indianola was the primary port of entry for European immigrants looking to migrate west.

In 1856 the US Army landed 34 camels from Tunisia, Turkey and Egypt at this seaport. Jefferson Davis believed that the animals would serve the army well especially in the crossing of the Southwest territories. They worked well at traveling over areas that horses could not manage, and did so with limited water. However the camels spooked the horses and had an overall bad disposition. And with the outbreak of the Civil War, the experiment was forgotten. Many of the camels were left to fend for themselves. The last feral camel was sighted in Douglas, Texas in 1941. The seaport proved to be a noteworthy site to both sides of the Civil War. The South needed it for imports from Mexico and the North obviously wanted to halt these imports. The town and port was occupied twice during the war by Union forces, the last being November 1863. It is noteworthy to mention that the North lost many men in their attempt to cross the Bay.

Ten years after the end of the Civil War, Indianola had prospered and the Northern Reconstruction influence had dissipated. The town had grown to 5,000 inhabitants, with a billiards hall, fire brigade, church, theatre and even a traveling baseball team. But on September 15, 1875, the town took a major hit from a hurricane. Few believed a hurricane was possible, as they thought its position on the coast would protect the seaport from such storms. There is no accurate account of deaths, but it is believed that 150-300 people died in that hurricane. The town rebuilt.

But just eleven years later, on August 19, 1886 the town was wiped out by a second intense hurricane. Hardly any items remained, and items that were left were burned by fires associated with the storm. The townspeople urged Galveston to build a seawall so as to avoid such a similar catastrophe, but the calls were unanswered until Galveston took its hit in the 1900's.

Indianola, gone but hopefully not forgotten.

MEMBER ACTIVITIES

By Ellen Brooke

On June 26th, Sister Cities members enjoyed a wonderful dinner and drinks at Everything German in Hurst. We then celebrated June birthdays with Black Forest Cake!



The scheduling was very fortunate as the restaurant closed weeks later due to family health issues.

MORE MEMBER ACTIVITIES

By Ellen Brooke

Sister Cities members had a fun evening at Rahr Brewery in Fort Worth on August 19th. The brewery offers "tours and tastings" every Wednesday and Saturday. Rahr has been a generous supporter of Sister Cities of Arlington, furnishing refreshment for our Picnic/Oktoberfest for several years.



Front row: Steve Brooke, Ellen Brooke, Cheré Maxwell, Christel Grotz. Middle row: Katie Harris, Vicki English, Macie Gold, Bruce Maxwell, Werner Grotz, Sharon Smith. Back row: Alex English, Eric English, Adnan Bahar, John Gold

JULY 4TH PARADE



Sister Cities of Arlington participated again this year in the Arlington 4th of July Parade. Our group partnered with the Arlington Convention & Visitors Bureau to staff the Texas Christkindl Market float. Special thanks to Gary & Floreen Henry for providing our support vehicle. And congratulations to Paul Fulks for his work on the float. We won 3rd Place in the Unique Non-Commercial category!

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday, September 18 – Fall Picnic/Oktoberfest. Plan to come out and join the celebration of 64 years of partnership with Bad Königshofen!

Friday, November 27 – Wednesday, December 23. Christkindl Market.

NEWS FLASH

Although the decision is not final, during a conference call and after much discussion, a majority of the Board agreed with the proposal to participate/sponsor the Texas Christkindl Market Ice Rink this season.

DON'T FORGET TO

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